

Former Police Spy Chief Contradicts Own Words

Hearing Transcript Conflicts With Statements Denying Knowledge About Paul's Activities

By GENE BLAKE, Times Staff Writer

A former acting commander of a now-disbanded Los Angeles police intelligence unit Friday disputed earlier testimony in the disciplinary hearing of suspended Detective Jay Paul—but was himself disputed by his own tape-recorded words.

The conflicting testimony came from Lt. Elmer Schiller, now assigned to the Anti-Terrorist Division, successor to the defunct Public Disorder Intelligence Division that he headed at times between 1979 and 1983.

Schiller testified that he had no knowledge that Paul was storing documents outside the intelligence division. He also denied knowing that Paul was working on a computer owned by the Western Goals Foundation, a private right-wing intelligence-gathering group.

Not Permitted

Schiller said he was aware that Paul used a word processor in his wife's law office but said he had no knowledge he was putting information into it. He testified that the only place he was aware of that Paul worked outside the division was a photo laboratory.

Paul is accused of improperly storing intelligence documents at his home and in a garage and of leaking confidential information to the Western Goals Foundation.

Under questioning by Sgt. Ken Small, who is presenting the department's case against Paul, Schil-

ler testified that copying or removing documents from the files and storing them outside the division was not permitted.

He denied knowing anything about the Western Goals Foundation or Paul's relationship to it.

Two of Paul's former superiors, Lt. Charles Kilgo and Lt. Thomas Scheidecker, have testified that there was nothing to prevent Paul from taking documents home and he was authorized to work with the Western Goals Foundation computer.

In fact, Kilgo testified that Paul was authorized to exchange information with John Rees, an editor of Western Goals Foundation publications on a "quid pro quo" basis.

Schiller testified that his only knowledge of such an arrangement was that Paul received a Rees publication, Information Digest, in exchange for newspaper clippings supplied by Paul.

Clippings Summarized

However, on cross-examination by Paul's attorney, Robert Loew, Schiller was confronted with a transcript of a tape-recorded interview conducted Jan. 4, 1983, by Internal Affairs Division investigators.

It quoted Schiller as saying that periodicals clipped by Paul "are summarized and indexed in a computer . . . in his, uh, wife's law office."

Schiller conceded that he may have said that but explained that at the time, he did not know the difference between a computer and a word processor.

The transcript also quoted Schiller as saying that Paul "has a contact with a person that owns a private intelligence . . . uh, I don't know if you call it a group or corporation or whatever. . . ."

Portions of the tape-recorded interview were played for the Board of Rights, but disagreement arose over whether the transcript prepared by Paul's investigators correctly reflected some of the words on the tape.

Police technicians will enhance the sound on the tape before questioning of Schiller resumes Thursday.

'Onion Field' Parolee Charged

"Onion Field" killer Jimmie Lee Smith was charged Friday with two felony counts of selling heroin, a district attorney's spokesman said.

Smith and an accomplice, Gregory Powell, were convicted of the 1963 murder of a Los Angeles policeman in an onion field near Bakersfield. The crime became the subject of a book and a film.

Smith was free on parole when he sold heroin to an undercover officer earlier this week, prosecutors said. Bail was set at \$50,000.